

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, line 28, to page 5, line 6, as previously amended, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment, the polyvinyl chloride resins include reactive groups other than epoxy groups, such as hydroxy and/or thiol groups, that react with the epoxy groups in the presence of an acidic catalyst at elevated temperatures. In one embodiment, the resins are hydroxy terminated resins. In one embodiment, the polyvinyl chloride resins have particle sizes in the range of between 40 and 600 nm, and representative molecular weights in the range of 5,000 and 60,000. One example of a suitable resin is UCAR Waterborne Vinyl AW-875 (Union Carbide), in which hydroxyl groups are distributed along the backbone and one type of the pendant groups contains a high concentration of carboxylic acid groups. In addition to hydrogen and chlorine atoms, the moieties pendant from the backbone of the polyvinyl chloride polymer are alkyl esters, ~~alkoxy~~ esters and polycarboxylic acid-containing esters. More specifically, the moieties pendant from the polyvinyl backbone of the polyvinyl chloride resin are ester pendant groups selected from the group consisting of acetate, hydroxyl-containing esters, and carboxylic acid-containing esters. The polyvinyl chloride resin may be a polyvinyl chloride homopolymer, a vinyl chloride/vinyl acetate copolymer, a chloride and hydroxyl-containing vinyl polymer, ~~chloride or~~ a carboxylic acid-containing vinyl chloride polymer, i.e. the polyvinyl chloride resin consists of vinyl chloride monomers, vinyl acetate monomers, hydroxyl-containing vinyl monomers and carboxylic acid-containing vinyl monomers. The resin has a particle size of about 0.08 micron, a molecular weight of about 24,000, a glass transition temperature of about 80°C, and a hydroxy (OH) equivalent weight of about 1005.